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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

1938

ALEXANDER URQUHART M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES.

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES.

LIST OF MEMBERS—1938.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR C. H. L. MASON.

Vice-Chairman—COUNCILLOR Mrs. B. C. LANGBRIDGE.

SUNBURY WARD

H. CLARKSON, Kenwyn, Rooksmead Road, Sunbury.

S. DAVIDSON, 2 Dax Court, Sunbury.

C. E. DAVIES, Manor Farm, Green Street, Sunbury

Mrs. B. C. LANGBRIDGE, Weir View, Thames Street, Sunbury.

G. H. L. MASON, 47 The Avenue, Sunbury.

SUNBURY COMMON WARD

G. H. ARCHER, Rosebanks, Green Street, Sunbury Common

L. H. BROWN, Caradoc, The Avenue, Sunbury Common.

P. BRYANT, Bishopsgate, Staines Road, Sunbury Common.

J. DESMOND, Cowley Villa, French Street, Sunbury Common.

ASHFORD AND HALLFORD WARD

L. B. HIRST, Frith Grange, Upper Halliford.

E. ROWLAND, Chudleigh, Staines Road, Ashford Common.

J. H. TICKNER, The Goat Inn, Upper Halliford.

SHEPPERTON WARD

The Hon. Mrs. M. H. BOUWENS, Old Manor House, Littleton.

W. G. GOFF, 31 Squires Road, Shepperton.

Mrs. G. HAYES-JONES, Hedge Corner, Watersplash Rd., Shepperton

J. H. KAYE, Highfield Road, Shepperton.

W. READ, Broadlands, Laleham Road, Shepperton.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1938

Chairman : COUNCILLOR G. H. ARCHER

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR Mrs. M. H. BOUWENS

Councillors :

Mrs. B. C. Langbridge	C. E. Davies
J. H. Tickner	Mrs. G. Hayes-Jones
P. Bryant	W. Read

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1938

(a) *Medical Officer of Health (part time) :*

ALEXANDER URQUHART, M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(b) *Sanitary Inspector (whole time)*

T. J. MOORE, M.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.

(c) *Additional Sanitary Inspector (whole time)*

T. STEEL, Cert. R. San. I. (*Resigned, July, 1938.*)

A. E. POOLEY, M.S.I.A. (*Took up duties November, 1938.*)

Clerk : Mrs. O. W. LUKYN, A I.H P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT
Medical Officer of Health
Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District Council
1938.

*To the Chairman and members of the Urban District Council
of Sunbury-on-Thames.*

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for 1938, on the Sanitary Circumstances, the Sanitary Administration, and the Vital Statistics of the District, in accordance with the requirements and instructions of the Minister of Health.

The District comprises the Parishes of Sunbury, Shepperton and Littleton, and part of the Parish of Ashford known as Ashford Common; and is divided into the following wards, viz.—

Sunbury	...	...	...	5 members
Sunbury Common		...	...	4 members
Shepperton	...	...	...	5 members
Ashford and Halliford	...	...	...	3 members

Statistics and Natural and Social Conditions of the Area

Area in acres ...	...	...	...	...	5,695
Population ...	...	...	...	...	16,580

(Estimated by the Registrar-General for 1938, showing an increase of only 640. The number of new houses erected in 1938 was 424. Our estimated population for 1938 is 19,500.

Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	5,760
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£191,085
Sum represented by a penny rate			...	...	£750

The general contour of the District is flat, the ground water is fairly high and the subsoil is mostly gravel and sand with bands of clay intervening. The nature of the subsoil is a material factor in creating healthy conditions, due to good drainage by filtration.

Within the District is the large "Queen Mary Reservoir" which has a circumference of $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles at the top, is 38 feet deep and comprises 723 acres covered by water.

A great deal of building development is taking place in the District and new houses have been erected by the Council and by private enterprise. The population is rapidly increasing in consequence. New roads have been made and Town Planning improvements are carried out, which add to the natural amenities, while maintaining the rural and residential character of the District.

There is no staple industry in the District other than Agriculture, Rose growing and Dairy farming, but the following industrial centres are situated within the Area :

The Square Grip Reinforcement Co. Ltd.

The British Thermostat Co. Ltd.

The Patent Impermeable Millboard Co. Ltd

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. (Research Department).

The following schedule shows the various Recreation Grounds and Open Spaces owned by the Council :—

Cedars Recreation Ground, Sunbury, with 3 Hard tennis courts and 2 football pitches	...	10.234	acres.
Rivermead Island and Foreshore, Sunbury, with Open-Air Swimming Bath	...	3.569	acres.
Old Bathing Field, Sunbury	...	2.288	acres.
King's Lawn, Sunbury	...	0.056	acres.
Church Green and Flower Pot Green, Sunbury		.027 and .30	acres.
Brickle Bridge, Sunbury	...	.192	acres.
Upper Halliford Green	...	1.16	acres.
Shepperton Recreation Ground, with 1 football pitch	...	4.128	acres.
Windmill Common	...	4.403	acres.
Lower Halliford Green	...	4.053	acres.
Littleton Recreation Ground, with 1 football and 1 cricket pitch	...	4.038	acres.
Chertsey Road Green, Ashford Common	...	.907	acres.
Towing Path, Shepperton	...	2.17	acres.
Groveley Recreation Ground	...	2.859	acres.
Alexandra Road Recreation Ground	...	5.27	acres.

These public spaces with their facilities for sport and recreation contribute to the high standard of health in the District.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate ...	287 (237)	147 (130)	140 (107)
Illegitimate	11 (10)	5 (7)	6 (3)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	298	152	146
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(Figures in brackets are for the previous year)

Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population

England and Wales	17.9 (15.4)
	15.1 (14.9)

STILLBIRTHS

Total	Males	Females
6 (11)	1 (8)	5 (3)
Rate per 1000 (live and stillbirth)		19.7 (16.2)

DEATHS

Total	Males	Females
187 (182)	101 (93)	86 (89)

Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 11.3 (11.4)

England and Wales 11.6 (12.4)

DEATHS FROM Puerperal Causes Nil (1)

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age

Deaths under 1 year ...	9	(10)
All infants per 1000 live births	30.2	(40.4)
Legitimate infants per 1000 live births	30.2	(33.7)
Illegitimate infants per 1000 live births	Nil	(8.43)
Deaths from measles (all ages)	2	(Nil)
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil	(Nil)
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil	(1)

Chief Causes of Death in 1938

The chief causes of death (all ages) in 1938 were as follows :

	Males	Females	Total
Heart Disease	26 (20)	25 (20)	51 (40)
Cancer	... 16 (9)	15 (21)	31 (30)

Of the deaths registered in the District in 1938, 28 were of persons between 60 and 70 years of age (15 males, 13 females); 39 were of persons between 70 and 80 years of age (22 males, 17 females); 31 were of persons between 80 and 90 years of age (12 males, 19 females), and there were two persons over 90 (Both females of 93.)

Vital Statistics for past 9 Years

	Birth Rate per 1000 population	Death Rate per 1000 population	Infant Mortality Death Rate per 1000 live births (under 1 year)
1930	19.6	7.9	36.9
1931	19.2	11.02	19.4
1932	18.78	12.13	97.2
1933	14.34	12.57	42.45
1934	18.16	11.32	53.23
1935	17.27	8.57	29.23
1936	18.35	9.07	46.59
1937	15.4	11.4	40.4
1938	17.9	11.3	30.2

Other Statistics for the past 9 years

	Population	No of Inhabited Houses	Rateable Value	Sum Represented by a 1d. rate
1930	12,989	3,314	£138,776	£537
1931	13,330	3,454	£139,269	£550
1932	13,679	3,537	£147,006	£569
1933	14,080	4,060	£150,592	£573
1934	14,519	4,298	£161,200	£603
1935	15,050	4,890	£160,983	£614
1936	15,200	5,124	£169,031	£684
1937	15,940	5,488	£178,611	£711
1938	16,580	5,760	£191,085	£750

Deaths in 1938, classified by Ages and Causes

DISEASE.	All Ages	Under 1 y'r		Years 3-5		Years 6-10		Years 11-15		Years 16-20		Years 21-25		Years 26-35		Years 36-45		Years 46-55		Years 56-65		Over 65	
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Influenza	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General paralysis of the insane, tabs dorsalis, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease	—	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Diabetes	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage &c.	—	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Heart Disease	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39
Aneurysm	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Other circulatory diseases	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Bronchitis	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other respiratory diseases	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Peptic Ulcer	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Diarrhoea &c. (Under 2 years)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Appendicitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Other diseases of Liver	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other digestive diseases	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other puerperal causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital debility, premature Births, malformations, &c.	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34
Senility	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	87
Suicide	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other Violence	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Other defined diseases	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	187	—	7	1	4	4	—	5	8	5	11	14	11	—	—	—	—	34

**BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF
MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-RATES AND CASE-
RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE
YEAR 1938.**

(England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns)

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
Births:-				
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
Deaths:-				
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Small-pox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough ...	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
Notifications:-				
Small-pox	0.00	—	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
Maternal Mortality:-				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0.89	}		
Others	2.19	}	Not available	
Total	3.08	}		
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and still)				
Maternal Mortality:-				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0.86	}		
Others	2.11	}	Not available	
Total	2.97	}		
Notifications:-				
Puerperal Fever } Puerperal Pyrexia }	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53 15.46

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities

Water, milk foodstuffs, sputa, swabs, etc., requiring Laboratory examination are sent to the Clinical Research Association, London.

During the year 1938 the following specimens were dealt with :—

	Total	Positive	Negative
Swabs for diphtheria ...	97	20	77
Sputum for Tuberculosis ...	9	3	6

(b) Ambulance Facilities

1. *For Infectious Cases.* Patients are removed in the ambulance provided by the Isolation Hospital from their homes to the hospital.

2. *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.* The Council provide a motor ambulance for the conveyance of non-infectious sick, and cases of accident. During the year the ambulance was called out in connection with 36 accidents and 56 cases of illness.

The Ambulance Service is satisfactory and efficient.

(c) Nursing in the Home

1. *General.* The Sunbury, Halliford and District Nursing Association and the Shepperton and Littleton District Nursing Association maintain, by voluntary subscriptions, two district nurses. Their services are much appreciated and in continual demand.

2. *Infectious Disease.* The home nursing of infectious disease is not undertaken by the Local Authority.

Midwives, 1938.

During the year 5 midwives practised within the area, as follows :—

Midwives resident in Sunbury.

BLAKE, Ada M., 44, Manor Lane, Sunbury.

GRIDLEY, Muriel E., 117 Ashridge Way, Sunbury.

ROBERTS, Annie (temporary), " Sherbourne," Crescent Road, Shepperton.

Midwives not resident in Sunbury.

BRISTOW, Marian, 1, Abbot's Tilt, Assher Road, Molesey Road, Hersham.

SLADE, Elizabeth M. E. (temporary), 65 Melbury Avenue, Southall.

Midwives employed in Sunbury by the County Council of Middlesex.

BONSEY, Doris May, 11 Evelyn Way, Sunbury.

FERON, Edith M., 59, Green Street, Sunbury.

JAMES, Edith G. P., Mansard, Charlton Road, Shepperton.

Midwives employed in Sunbury by the Shepperton and Littleton District Nursing Association under arrangements made with the Middlesex County Council in accordance with the Midwives Act, 1936.

GREENO, Jane L., Sherbourne, Crescent Road, Shepperton.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

There are Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics at Sunbury, Upper Halliford, Ashford Common and Shepperton; and School Clinics. These are under the control of the Middlesex County Council.

The District has no Institution for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children. Any such cases are admitted into the Public Assistance Institution at Stanwell.

Cases of Venereal Disease receive treatment at Richmond Hospital, the Prince of Wales Hospital, Tottenham, or the General Hospitals in London.

(e) Hospitals—Public and Voluntary

The local hospitals available are Hampton Cottage Hospital, Staines Cottage Hospital, Walton Cottage Hospital, the West Middlesex Hospital and the Staines Union Infirmary.

A certain number of cases are also received at Richmond, Weybridge, Windsor or at any of the London Hospitals.

The County Council is the authority for the provision of smallpox hospital accommodation for the whole of the administrative county. It has met its obligations by entering into an agreement with the London County Council whereby the very extensive accommodation provided by that authority has been made available for the reception of any smallpox cases occurring in the County of Middlesex.

Cases of Infectious Diseases are sent to the Isolation Hospital, Stanwell, where the accommodation is sufficient under present conditions.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

The County Sanatorium, Harefield, has accommodation for 308 adults and 70 children.

Clare Hall, South Mimms, has accommodation for 186 adults and the Public Health Hospitals of the Middlesex County Council all have beds available for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

A special block has been provided at the County Sanatorium Harefield, to which all patients requiring observation under residential conditions are now sent.

Surgical Tuberculosis

In cases of a non-pulmonary nature, application for admission is made to one or another of the existing institutions approved by the Ministry of Health for the treatment of tuberculosis.

(f) Legislation in Force

<i>Adoptive Acts.</i>	<i>Date of Adoption.</i>
Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890	... 1-7-1895
Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1890 Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5.	... 1-8-1895
The Private Street Works Act, 1892	... 1-8-1895
Public Health Acts (Amendment) 1907 certain sections in parts 2, 3, 4 and 10.	... 26-5-1924
Public Health Act, 1925 certain sections in parts 2 ...	16-8-1926
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. Section 1	... 7-3-1934
Middlesex County Council Act, 1934. Part 7	... 1-6-1935

Bye-laws and Regulations.

House Drainage Regulations (Amended in 1935)	26-9-1934
Regulations for connections with Public Sewers ...	26-9-1934
Cemetery Regulations	... 21-7-1900
Bye-laws as to Pleasure Grounds and Open Spaces	2-5-1921
Bye-laws as to New Streets and Buildings	... 21-1-1924
Bye-laws as to Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures used for human habitation	... 20-3-1924
Bye-laws for the Regulations of Offensive Trades	21-7-1925
Bye-laws as to New Buildings	... 16-9-1926
Bye-laws as to Cesspools	(Allowed) 25-1-1933

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (i) Water

The water supply of the area is satisfactory both in quantity and quality. Almost all the dwelling-houses in the District are supplied from the mains of the various water companies.

The following are the water companies serving the area :—

- (a) The Metropolitan Water Board supplies Sunbury, Sunbury Common, Upper Halliford and Charlton.
- (b) The West Surrey Water Company supplies Shepperton and Littleton.
- (c) The South West Suburban Water Company supplies Ashford Common.

A few cottages and some private houses in the District are dependent on tubes or shallow wells. When complaints are received, the water from these is tested. If the water is found not of good quality, or unfit for drinking through contamination, other sources of supply are found, or attachment to the main advised where possible.

The Queen Mary Reservoir is kept under observation by the Sanitary Inspector and myself and means are adopted to mitigate the nuisance of gnats and flies when it arises. In their own interests the Metropolitan Water Board take all steps necessary to deal with this matter, which is only of a temporary nature, and can be kept under by means of spraying the water with innocuous oils, and the banks with chemical solutions.

Similar conditions exist in certain disused gravel pits, ponds, etc., in the District, and means are taken to deal with these by spraying, etc.

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage

The sewage of the whole District is now treated at the Sewage Disposal Works at Mogden.

2. Rivers and Streams

The rivers and streams in the District are kept under frequent observation.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation

In the whole area approximately 90% of the houses are provided with water closets. Of the remainder various types of privies, pail and earth closets are in use.

At the close of the year, 1,790 premises had made connection to the Council's sewer, since the completion of the Main Drainage Scheme.

(ii) Public Cleansing

In all parts of the District there is a weekly collection of refuse by motor covered vehicles.

All scavenging is carried out by the Council.

The cleansing of earth closets in the Ashford Common district is carried out by the Contractors on behalf of the Council. In other parts of the area, the cleansing is carried out by the occupiers of the premises.

All refuse from the Dust Collecting Vehicles is efficiently disposed of by incineration at the Council's Destructor Works.

The excreta from pail closets, privies, etc., is disposed of by burial, or by spreading on agricultural land.

Cesspools in the unsewered parts of the District are cleansed by a Motor Cesspool Exhauster and conveyed to the Sewage Disposal Works.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of Area

A report dealing with :—

- (a) The nature and number of inspections;
- (b) The number of notices served;
- (c) The result of the services of such notices will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector which is at the end of this report.

(iv) Shops

No statutory action under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, was taken during the year. In several instances, however, improvements in ventilation, heating and sanitary accommodation have been carried out by the occupiers.

(v) Smoke Abatement

No statutory action has been taken during the year with regard to abatement of nuisances arising from smoke in this District. Complaints were received respecting the emission of black smoke from the chimneys of steam navvies in use at gravel pits and several regarding a paper factory, but it was not necessary to take any special action.

(vi) Swimming Baths and Pools

There is one Swimming Bath open to the public in Sunbury under the control of the Council. It is emptied thrice weekly and chlorinated.

(viii) Eradication of Bugs

(1) In 1938, 30 Council houses and 3 other houses were found to be infested with bed bugs.

(2) For freeing infested houses from bed bugs, fumigation by "Cimex" and spraying with "Zaldecide" are carried out by the Council.

(3) The belongings of tenants from condemned houses are subjected to fumigation before removal to Council houses.

(4) The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

(5) Tenants in all cases are given advice on the habits of vermin and their eradication.

4. Schools

The sanitary condition and water supply of the public elementary schools is satisfactory. Some of the buildings lack the advantages of those more modern. These premises are visited periodically by the Sanitary Inspector.

The health of the scholars is closely observed by the teachers, and cases of illness, poor health, defective vision or hearing, etc., are referred to the School Medical Officers.

The spread of infectious diseases is kept under control by exclusion of contacts and cases of doubtful infection. The training and experience of senior teachers in recognising cases of infection is invaluable in limiting the spread of infectious disease among school children.

HOUSING

The problem of Housing continues to receive attention by the Council, and improvement in Housing conditions generally continues.

During the year, the Council erected 16 houses and 20 bungalows, for the re-housing of persons displaced from condemned homes and for the abatement of overcrowding.

List of Council Houses

Acacia Avenue	...	42
Allen Road	...	26
Baldwin's Cottages	...	10
Beard's Road	...	42
Cavendish Road	...	100
Charlton Lane	...	12
Charlton Road	...	24
Green Leas Estate	...	66
Halliford Close	...	20
Layton's Lane	...	26
Manor Lane	...	12
Nursery Gardens	...	24
Nursery Road	...	19
Nursery Terrace	...	6
Stanley Cottages	...	16
Sutherland Avenue	...	47
Windmill Terrace	...	22
Windmill Road	...	6
		—
		520
		—

Housing Statistics

A. Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	414
(b) (i) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	36
(ii) By private enterprise	...	...	...	...	378

B.	Number of dwelling-houses owned by the Local Authority	...	...	...	520
1.	Housing Act, 1919	...	...	...	66
2.	Housing Act, 1923	...	...	...	182
3.	Housing Act, 1924	...	...	...	90
4.	Housing Act, 1925 (Self Supporting)	...	...	...	60
5.	Housing Act, 1930	...	...	...	122

The following information is supplied at the request of the Ministry of Health :—

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—(1938)*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	...	...	227
(b)	Number of inspections (including re-inspections) made for the purpose ...				838
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) (above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	...	...	...	62
(b)	Number of inspections (including re-inspections) made for the purpose ...				265
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	...	...	...	10
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	...	...	...	83

2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 72

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

a.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :
 - (a) By owners Nil
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners Nil

b.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 3
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
 - (a) By owners 3
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners Nil

c.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 10

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4
--	-----	---

d.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit ...	...	...	Nil

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding* :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	...	...	...	27
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	...	...	...	27
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	...	...	...	209
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	...	...	...	6
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	...	...	...	8
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	...	...	...	49
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	...	...	...	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ...	...	...	...	Nil

Factories and Workshops

*Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 and the Factories Act, 1937
(which superseded the Act of 1901 on the 1st July, 1938)*

All the factories and workshops in the district have been inspected during the year and the various sanitary defects remedied in consequence.

The following tables are on the lines of those issued by the Home Office, so far as they affect this district, showing particulars of inspections, etc.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES. (1)	NUMBER OF		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	68	2	—
Factories without mechanical power	10		—
* Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises).	39		—
* Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.			
TOTAL ...	117	2	Nil

2.—DEFECTS FOUND

PARTICULARS (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2		
Overcrowding (S.2) ...				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) } insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	—
Other nuisances	1	1		
<i>(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).</i>				
TOTAL	4	4	Nil	Nil

3.—OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES,

Section 108 of Act of 1901, Section 111 of of Act of 1938 ... Nil.

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Farms and Dairies where milk is supplied and sold are periodically inspected in regard to cleanliness and sanitary conditions. No outbreak of infectious disease attributable to milk occurred during the year, and no action had to be taken under the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The supply of a clean, safe milk is one of the most serious food problems of the present day. Many diseases may be spread through infected milk, but the Milk Trade generally is giving special scientific attention in the production of a cleaner milk, and the manner of vending is still improving.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The inspection of meat is mainly controlled by the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. The carcases of all animals slaughtered in the district are inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and generally are of good quality. A large proportion of the meat consumed in the district is bought at the London Markets. A detailed list of inspections appears in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Frequent visits were made to butchers' and other shops where food is prepared or exposed for sale and a certain quantity of meat and other food was condemned.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	92	141	165	—
Number inspected	92	141	165	2609
All diseases except Tuberculosis.				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3	—	1	71
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis ...	3.26%	—	.61%	2.72%
Tuberculosis only				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	27	—	—	69
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	29.72%	—	—	2.64%

(c) SALE OF FOODS & DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT.

I am indebted to the Chief Officer of the Public Control Department of the Middlesex County Council for the following report as to samples purchased in this area during 1938.

<i>Article.</i>				<i>Taken.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>
Milk	...	...	...	37	1
Eucalyptus Oil	...	...	...	1	—
Gin	...	...	...	3	—
Minced Beef	...	...	...	1	—
Rum	...	...	...	1	—
Sausages	...	...	...	5	—
Tincture of Iodine		...	...	1	—
Whisky	...	...	...	4	—
				—	—
				53	1
				—	—

Section F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

During 1938 there were 123 Notifications of Infectious Disease as against 98 the previous year.

Diphtheria. There were 73 cases (4 in 1937) and all were admitted to hospital. There were 3 deaths.

The cases occurred as follows in the Wards :— Sunbury 1, Sunbury Common 1, Ashford Common 38 and Shepperton 33.

A supply of diphtheria antitoxin is kept at the Public Health Department for use by local Medical practitioners.

Immunisation for Diphtheria. No action by the Council is taken in the matter of Immunisation of school children, but the question has been under consideration.

Scarlet Fever. There were 26 cases as against 57 in 1937. Six cases were nursed at home.

Sunbury Ward 6, Sunbury Common Ward 5, Ashford & Halliford Ward 3, Shepperton Ward 12.

Puerperal Pyrexia. Two cases notified and admitted to hospital.

Pneumonia. Only 2 cases were notified (one admitted to hospital). One fatal.

Erysipelas. Two cases notified, one nursed at home, the other at hospital.

Chickenpox. 6 cases were notified by medical practitioners, but many more occurred in the District and were reported by the Head Teachers of Schools.

Enteric Fever. One case notified and set to hospital.



Non-Notifiable Diseases

Cases of Mumps, Chickenpox, Measles, Whooping Cough and Impetigo were notified from the Schools.

Cancer. During 1938 there were 31 deaths from Cancer in its various forms. The ages varied from 33 to 86. (In 1937 there were 30 deaths).

Prevalence of Cancer in relation to Age, Sex and Organs

<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Organ and Site</i>
44	F	Stomach
57	M	Mediastinum
54	F	Breast
71	F	Colon
45	F	Ileum
72	F	Dorsal Vertebrae and Left Breast
58	M	Stomach
69	F	Breast and Lung
56	M	Brain and Lung
33	F	Ileum and Pancreas
37	M	Liver and Stomach
66	M	Pharynx
59	M	Larynx
63	M	Colon
65	F	Liver and Bowel
82	F	Bladder
38	F	Bronchus
72	M	Colon
36	F	Breast
86	F	Breast
33	F	Colon
67	M	Colon
67	M	Oesophagus
64	M	Prostate
62	M	Stomach
56	F	Cervix
70	M	Rectum
79	M	Colon
71	M	Tongue
36	F	Pylorus
57	M	Lung
58	M	Left Leg

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

It was not necessary for any action to be taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes during the past year.

TUBERCULOSIS PULMONARY.

9 new cases were notified during 1938, 4 by medical practitioners and 5 from hospitals and sanatoria.

There were 14 deaths, 9 males and 5 females.

OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Two new cases were notified during the year.

Cases of tuberculosis are efficiently notified in the area and it has not been found necessary to take proceedings in any case of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the area.

During the year no action was required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The premises where death has occurred from Tuberculosis or from which the patient has been sent to a Sanatorium, or otherwise arranged for, are disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector. In the cases of patients treated at home, instruction is given as to the proper use of disinfectants, which are supplied by the Council.

Cases of Tuberculosis, after being notified to the Medical Officer of Health, are referred to the Tuberculosis Medical Officers appointed by the County Council, who arrange for the appropriate treatment in each case. Suitable cases are sent to Santoria or to special hospitals for the treatment of Tubercular diseases.

There are Dispensaries for the treatment of Tuberculosis at Staines, Hounslow and Twickenham. Cases suitable for Sanatorium treatment are sent to Clare Hall, Harefield, or elsewhere.

Tuberculosis, 1938.

AGE PERIODS. YEARS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS ALL CASES.			
	Pul.		Non-Pul.		Pul.		Non-Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
16—20	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
21—25	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
26—35	3	1	—	—	3	4	—	—
36—45	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
46—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	7	2	—	2	9	5	—	—

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) During the Year 1938.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	26	20	—
Diphtheria	73	73	3
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	—
Pneumonia	2	1	1
Erysipelas	2	1	—
Chickenpox	6	—	—

Infectious Diseases Notified During 1938.

	Under 1—2 yrs.	2—3 yrs.	3—4 yrs.	4—5 yrs.	5—10 yrs.	10—15 yrs.	15—20 yrs.	20—35 yrs.	35—45 yrs.	45—65 yrs.	Over 65 yrs.	All ages	D'ths	Hos.	Admit.
Scarlet Fever	—	1	2	—	2	12	6	1	1	—	—	26	—	—	20
Diphtheria	1	—	2	5	7	59	13	3	5	—	—	73	5	73	
Puerperal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	2
Ptyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
Chickenpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6	—

Infectious Diseases Notified During 1938.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Chickenpox	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Months Totals
January	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
February	2	11	—	—	—	—	13
March	5	5	2	—	—	—	8
April	4	1	—	—	1	—	6
May	2	1	—	—	—	—	5
June	1	2	2	—	—	—	5
July	2	1	1	—	—	—	5
August	1	5	—	—	1	—	5
September	4	15	—	—	—	1	20
October	4	8	—	—	—	—	12
November	2	7	—	—	1	—	11
December	1	20	—	—	—	—	21
TOTALS	26	75	6	2	2	—	111

GENERAL REPORT OF THE AREA

The area continues to be a very healthy one and hygienic conditions improve steadily. The death rate is about the average. The rate for 1938 (11.3 per 1,000) is slightly below the rate for England and Wales (11.6). The birth rate (17.9) is greater than that of the previous year (15.4). The population of the District is increasing rapidly owing to the great increase in house building that is taking place.

The amount of Infectious Disease during 1938 was higher than the previous year. This was due chiefly to an outbreak of Diphtheria in the Spelthorne School, Ashford Common, and the Church School, Shepperton, in the latter part of the year. Prompt measures taken, by exclusion of contacts and strict medical supervision by the School Medical Officers, resulted in the epidemic dying out in a few weeks. Otherwise the health of all school children has been exceedingly good.

Housing conditions continue to improve as a result of the policy of the Council. Further attention has been given to Slum Clearance. The chief area has been 1 to 10 Cambridge Road, Ashford Common, which was represented as a Clearance Area.

The demand for Council houses still continues and there is a considerable waiting list. Careful selection is made of tenants so that little damage as possible is done to Council property. But cases arise where a poorer class of tenant has been given a Council house out of consideration of their poverty and the result has been that dirty habits have not been changed and the rent is in arrears. This is a problem that is constantly facing the Council. In the majority of cases, however, the improved housing condition has improved the standard of living as far as present economic conditions allow.

In spite of abnormal National conditions, all the work in the Public Health Department has been carried on satisfactorily. Air Raid Precautions schemes and plans have been energetically pressed forward by the Committee with the sanction of the Council. In this connection I would like to point out the great deal of extra work that has been done by the staff in the Public Health Department in the matter of First-Aid, Anti-Gas Training and Home Nursing. This has resulted in a large number of fully-trained volunteers who are now qualified to act in these branches of National Service.

I would specially thank Mrs. Lukyn and Mr. Moore, who have devoted so much of their spare time and very many evenings to lecturing and assisting in this work of training, and, at the same time, have carried out all the ordinary duties of the Department with complete satisfaction.

Mr. Pooley, the Additional Sanitary Inspector, has done exceedingly good work since his appointment and has been of great assistance in all the routine work.

I also wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their consideration and support in all matters affecting the Public Health of the District.

Your obedient servant,

ALEX. URQUHART,

Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector for the year 1938

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District
Council of Sunbury-on-Thames.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my ninth Annual Report dealing with the work carried out during the year 1938.

The total number of inspections made was 2,875 as compared with 3,768 in 1937.

The decline in the number of inspections is chiefly accounted for by the fact that for a considerable period I was without an assistant, and further, although at all times every endeavour was made to ensure that essential services received attention, much time was devoted to duties in connection with Air Raid Precautions.

A considerable amount of time was entailed in dealing with Infectious Disease. The occurrence of a case of infection made the opportunity of a detailed inspection of a home at which the case occurred and by this means a large number of houses received attention.

Notwithstanding the fact that certain owners demurred when called upon to carry out repairs, the majority did their best to comply with the requirements of any notices served.

Detailed information of the work carried out by your Inspector is appended as follows :—

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA. INSPECTIONS.

The total number of inspections and re-inspections made in regard to each section of work is recorded in the appended table.

Houses inspected under Public Health or Housing Acts		420
Re-inspections and Inspections of works in progress ...		1103
Special Visits—Advisory Interviews, etc. ...		65
Inspections of Caravans and Temporary Buildings ...		82
Slaughterhouses (re Inspection of Meat) ...		305
Inspection of Butchers' and other food shops ...		148
Inspection of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops ...		54
Inspection of Shops		215
Inspection of Factories and Workshops (including Bakehouses and Outworkers)		117
Visits re Infectious Disease		114
Premises other than dwelling-houses inspected under Public Health Acts		58
Re-visits		134
Miscellaneous		60
TOTAL NUMBER of Inspections and Re-inspections		2875

Complaints Received during 1938

Conditions of premises	...	...	...	...	45
Dampness ...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective roofs ...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective or overflowing cesspools	...	...	...	...	12
Defective or obstructed drains	...	...	...	...	12
Sanitary conveniences ...	...	...	...	...	5
Absence of or defective dustbins	...	...	...	...	16
Vermin ...	...	...	...	...	7
Nuisance from keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	8
Rats and mice ...	...	...	...	...	6
Accumulations of refuse ...	...	...	...	...	6
Smoke nuisances ...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...	1
Condition of caravan encampments	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	19
				TOTAL	158

These were promptly investigated and in those cases in which the Council had power to interfere, the necessary steps were immediately taken to remove the cause of complaint.

NOTICES SERVED

Informal Notices (Written) ...	...	...	...	176
Statutory Notices ...	...	...	...	43

Summary of Sanitary Improvements and Remedial Works during the year 1938

Number of houses and premises drained or re-drained ...	123
Drains or Gullies unstopped, cleansed and repaired ...	36
Manholes provided ...	26
Fresh Air Inlets provided or repaired ...	41
New Gully Traps fixed ...	78
New Soil Pipes and/or Ventilating Shafts fixed ...	26
Water Tests applied ...	222
Cesspools cleansed ...	12
New W.C. Basins fixed ...	22
W.C.'s unstopped, cleansed or repaired ...	39
New Flushing Boxes fitted to W.C.'s ...	26
Existing Flushing Boxes repaired ...	15
Joints between W.C.'s and Flush Pipes repaired ...	40
Waste Pipes repaired or unstopped ...	15
Roofs repaired ...	25
Eaves, Guttering renewed, cleansed or repaired ...	24
Stack Pipes provided, repaired or unstopped ...	19
Damp Walls remedied ...	21
Walls re-pointed or repaired ...	16
Paving of Yards repaired ...	29
Floors of Rooms repaired ...	11
Rooms cleansed, distempered or re-papered ...	321
Windows repaired and/or made to open ...	24

Staircases repaired ...	...	...	...	...	2
Water Service Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Dustbins provided ...	...	...	...	...	42
Nuisance from overcrowding abated ...	...	...	...	...	8
Nuisance from the keeping of animals abated ...	...	...	...	...	10
Accumulations of refuse removed ...	...	...	...	...	12
Ranges and Stoves provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	21
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	19

Infectious Disease and Disinfection

Ninety-nine rooms were fumigated after the occurrence of cases of infectious disease notified by medical practitioners, and in many cases the walls of the rooms were stripped and cleansed.

In addition, 81 rooms at 33 houses were fumigated and sprayed with vermicide owing to their verminous condition, and advice was offered to the occupiers in each case, on steps to be taken to prevent further infestation. In certain instances rooms and their contents were treated prior to the occupier removing to houses belonging to the Council.

House Drainage and Closet Accommodation

One Hundred and Twenty-three premises in the district were provided with a proper system of drainage and the existing drains at 22 other premises were properly repaired or amended.

All new drains were subjected to a "water test" before and after the ground had been filled in.

Council Houses

The Housing Estates under the control of the Council received considerable attention during the year.

Complaints were in all cases promptly investigated and, where necessary, works of repair were carried out under the supervision of your Surveyor.

In 30 instances Council houses were found to be infested with vermin and spraying and fumigating was carried out in order to remedy these conditions.

It is the practice for thorough inspection of premises to be made on their becoming vacant and necessary repairs and re-decorations are normally carried out before re-occupation.

Investigations of the living conditions of all applicants for Council houses, who are living within the Urban District, have been made and a revised list submitted to the Housing Committee of the Council of families who have a reasonable claim to a house on health grounds or for other appropriate reasons.

36 new houses were erected by your Council during the year and together with a number of other houses becoming vacant, it was possible to re-house a total of 91 families.

House to House Inspections

The Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932, require the Local Authority to make provisions for a thorough inspection to be carried out, from time to time, of the dwelling-houses in their District. The chief object of the inspection is to ascertain the state of the houses in relation to the following matters, namely :

- (1) The adequacy and accessibility of the water supply;
- (2) The arrangements for preventing the contamination of the water supply.

- (3) The adequacy and accessibility of sanitary accommodation or of other conveniences;
- (4) Drainage;
- (5) The condition of the house in regard to light, the free circulation of air, dampness and cleanliness;
- (6) The paving, drainage, and sanitary condition of any courtyard or passage, or outhouse, belonging to or occupied with the house;
- (7) The arrangements for the deposit of refuse or ashes;
- (8) The existence of any room which would by virtue of subsection (1) of section 18 of the Act of 1925 be unfit for human habitation;
- (9) Any defects in other matters which may tend to render the house in any respect unfit for human habitation.
- (10) The extent to which by reason of disrepair or sanitary defects, as defined in section 188 of the Housing Act, 1936, the house falls short of the provision of any Bye-laws in operation in the District or of the general standard of housing accommodation for the working classes in the district.

In compliance with the above Regulations, 62 houses in areas scheduled to be dealt with, were inspected during the year. In addition under this heading 64 houses were inspected on complaint, 81 following an occurrence of infectious disease, and 172 Council houses.

Twenty-seven houses were measured re Overcrowding (Housing Act), 1936.

Factories Act, 1937

There were 93 Factories and Workplaces on the register at the end of the period under review.

The following provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, are administered by the Council in any factory where mechanical power is not used, unless it is a place where there is a risk of industrial disease or injury to health and the Home Secretary requires that these provisions shall be enforced by the Factory Inspector :—

- (1) Cleanliness.
- (2) Overcrowding.
- (3) Temperature.
- (4) Ventilation.
- (5) Drainage of floors in wet processes.

The provisions of Section 7 of the Factories Act, 1937, relating to sanitary conveniences, and the provisions of the Sanitary Accommodation Order 1938 made by the Secretary of State in accordance with this section, are administered by the Council, in the case of all factories.

Other provisions of the Act which are enforced by the District Council relate to provision of means of escape in case of fire, approval of source of water supply for drinking purposes other than supplies from public mains, and the inspection of premises used for the carrying out of certain work given out from factories and contractors.

Certain provisions of the repealed Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, relating to the regulation of bakehouses are incorporated in the new Act and are also enforced by the District Council.

A total of 117 visits has been made to these premises during the year and contraventions of the above-mentioned provisions which were discovered as a consequence were properly remedied by the persons responsible.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

The inspection and supervision of food supplies received a large amount of attention.

MILK SUPPLY

There are 7 cowkeepers on the register, of whom 4 are also dairymen, and 4 dairymen who are not cowkeepers.

There are also 8 dairymen on the register who supply milk in the District but whose place of business is outside the District.

There is one Accredited milk producer in the District, two retailers are licensed to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk, and five "Pasteurised" milk.

Notwithstanding the fact that generally there is a marked improvement in the care which is being exercised by the majority of cowkeepers and dairymen in the production of wholesome milk, in several instances greater attention to general cleanliness is needed.

The Veterinary inspection of cows kept in the District is undertaken by the Middlesex County Council.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT

There are 4 slaughterhouses and 1 knacker's yard in the District, the occupier of each being licensed by the Council for a period of one year.

The slaughterhouses are kept under constant observation, and the necessary steps have been taken to secure proper compliance with the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, and your Council's Bye-laws, especially in regard to cleanliness, removal of offal, limewashing, etc.

Visits to these premises as hitherto, have been as far as possible at the time of slaughter, so that the carcases and viscera could be properly examined and any abnormal conditions more easily detected.

The number of visits to slaughterhouses was 305 for the purpose of Meat Inspection. Under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, 11 persons were licensed to slaughter certain animals in slaughterhouses and knacker's yards.

The total amount of carcases inspected after slaughter during the year was as follows :—

Beasts 92; calves 141; sheep 165; pigs 2609. Total 3007.

The 21 butcher's shops have been inspected and observation kept upon the vehicles used for the conveyance of meat. Generally the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, have been observed. In no instance was it necessary to take formal action in dealing with contraventions.

The following diseased and/or unsound meat and other foods were detected, surrendered and destroyed.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Location	Bovines	Swine
Entire carcases and offal ...	—	2
Lungs	14	1
Plucks	—	7
Mesenteries	6	22
Livers	3	1
Heads	10	35
Tongues	5	35

In addition the forequarters and offal of one beast was found to be infected with tuberculosis and was surrendered and destroyed

CONDITIONS OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Bovines

3 livers—Distomatosis.

Swine

- 19 sets of lungs—Pneumonia.
- 38 sets of lungs—Congestion.
- 20 hearts—Pericarditis.
- 2 mesenteries—Cystic.
- 4 livers—Cirrhosis.

Sheep

- 1 liver—Cystic.

In addition the following was found to be unsound, unwholesome and unfit for food and was surrendered and destroyed :—

- 5 carcases of imported mutton.
- 1 cooked ham.
- 3 cwt. English Cheddar cheese.
- A quantity of Cornish pasties.

OTHER FOOD PREMISES.

Other premises where food is prepared have been regularly inspected and 148 visits have been made for this purpose. In no case has any food purveyor raised any objection to his premises and goods being inspected.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 9 bakehouses in use in the District. In two instances it was necessary to call the occupier's attention to breaches of the special clauses of the Factory and Workshop Acts which regulate the premises.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

The premises where ice-cream was sold were visited during the summer months. In four instances this commodity was made on the premises.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are four premises in the district where the business of fish frying is carried on. Regular inspections have been made to ensure that cleansing and limewashing are carried out as required, and that care is taken to prevent offensive odours arising. On the whole the trade is conducted satisfactorily.

SHOPS ACTS.

In the administration of the Shops Acts, 215 visits and inspections were made during the year.

A number of minor infringements have been observed, but in each case a word of warning has been sufficient to ensure full compliance.

GAME LICENCES.

Four applications were received under Section 27 of the Local Government Act 1894 from tradesmen in the District for licences to deal in game.

A licence was granted in each instance, but in one case the applicant asked for his request to be withdrawn.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No Statutory action has been taken during the year with regard to abatement of nuisances arising from smoke in this District. Two complaints were received during the year concerning excessive smoke or fumes emitted from 2 factories. In each instance improvement was effected by interviewing Works' engineers.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Complaints of the presence of Rats and Mice were referred to the Middlesex County Council who are the Authority under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919.

Two complaints were received however regarding the Council's disused refuse dump. The hedgerows and allotment gardens in the vicinity received attention, poison was laid and

gassing resorted to, and there is no doubt that many rats have been destroyed by the adoption of these methods.

RIVERS, STREAMS, PONDS AND DITCHES.

Under the supervision of your Medical Officer of Health several ponds, stagnant pools and ditches, were sprayed with oil or special solution to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, etc.

TENTS, VANS, AND SIMILAR STRUCTURES.

These premises received attention and the Council's Byelaws regarding them enforced. In several instances vans occupied by persons of the nomad type were brought into the district but no attempt has been made to form a colony.

Difficulty has been experienced in dealing with the week-end camper. The prevention of abuses and the control of these temporary camps, in the absence of proper conveniences is a serious problem and almost an impossible task.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal Proceedings were instituted against the occupier of No. 23 Park Road, and an order was obtained for the suppression of nuisances arising from premises in such a state as to be a nuisance, accumulations of filth and refuse, etc.

Owing to the poverty and mental condition of the defendant the Council carried out the necessary works in default. The defendant is now in an institution.

CONCLUSION.

It is with much pleasure that I express my thanks to Dr. Urquhart for his helpful advice during the year, and my appreciation of the co-operation of Mrs. Lukyn and my colleagues in the Public Health Department, and other Officers of the Council at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
T. J. MOORE,
Sanitary Inspector.

